

**To:** All Providers, HMOs and Other Managed Care Programs

## **Mental Health and Substance Abuse Screening, Preventive Mental Health Counseling, and Substance Abuse Intervention for Pregnant Women: A New Benefit Under BadgerCare Plus and Wisconsin Medicaid**

BadgerCare Plus, the new state-sponsored health care program, will be implemented in February 2008. Mental health and substance abuse screening, preventive mental health counseling, and substance abuse intervention for pregnant women is a new benefit offered to members enrolled in BadgerCare Plus and Wisconsin Medicaid. This *Update* describes the policies for the screening, counseling, and intervention benefit.

### **BadgerCare Plus Overview**

In January 2007, Governor Jim Doyle included in his 2007-09 Biennial Budget proposal an innovative state-sponsored health care program to expand coverage to Wisconsin residents and ensure that all children in Wisconsin have access to affordable health care. This new program is called BadgerCare Plus, and it will start on February 1, 2008.

BadgerCare Plus merges family Medicaid, BadgerCare, and Healthy Start into a single program. BadgerCare Plus will expand enrollment to:

- All uninsured children.
- More pregnant women.
- More parents and caretaker relatives.
- Parents with children in foster care who are working to reunify their families.
- Young adults exiting out-of-home care, such as foster care, because they have turned 18 years of age.

- Certain farmers and other self-employed parents and caretaker relatives.

All individuals enrolled in BadgerCare Plus and Wisconsin Medicaid will be referred to as “members.”

BadgerCare Plus is comprised of two benefit plans, the Standard Plan and the Benchmark Plan. The services covered under the BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan are the same as the current Wisconsin Medicaid program; therefore, the term “Standard Plan” will be used in all future *Updates* to describe the shared policy and billing information. The BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan is a more limited plan, modeled after commercial insurance.

Refer to the November 2007 *Update* (2007-79), titled “Introduction to BadgerCare Plus — Wisconsin’s New Health Care Program,” for general information on covered and noncovered services, copayments, and enrollment.

### **Definition of the New Benefit**

This *Update* introduces a new benefit for pregnant women enrolled in BadgerCare Plus and Wisconsin Medicaid. All policies and procedures are the same for the Standard Plan, the Benchmark Plan, and Wisconsin Medicaid unless otherwise specified. Women enrolled in an HMO must receive the services through the HMO.

The purpose of the new benefit is to identify and assist pregnant women at risk for mental health or substance abuse problems during pregnancy. The benefit has two components:

- Screening for mental health (e.g., depression and/or trauma) and/or substance abuse problems.
- Brief preventive mental health counseling and/or substance abuse intervention for pregnant women identified as being at risk for experiencing mental health or substance abuse disorders.

These are preventive services available to members with a verified pregnancy. These services are not intended to treat women previously diagnosed with a mental health or substance abuse disorder or to treat women already receiving treatment through mental health, substance abuse, or prenatal care coordination services.

The mental health screening and preventive counseling are designed to prevent mental health disorders from developing or worsening in severity during the pregnancy and the postpartum period. The substance abuse screening and intervention services are designed to help women stay alcohol and drug free during the pregnancy.

Women identified through the screening process as likely to be experiencing mental health disorders and women identified as likely to be dependent on alcohol or other drugs should be referred to an appropriate certified mental health or substance abuse program.

### ***Mental Health and Substance Abuse Screening***

Providers are required to use an in-depth evidence-based tool to identify women at risk for mental health, substance abuse, or trauma-related problems; however, there is no requirement for a specific screening tool.

Mental health screening tools available to providers include the following:

- Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale (EPDS). The EPDS is available in English, Spanish and Hmong at

the Perinatal Foundation/Wisconsin Association for Perinatal Care Web site,  
[www.perinatalweb.org/content/view/59/247/](http://www.perinatalweb.org/content/view/59/247/).

- Beck Depression Inventory-II (BDI-II). The BDI-II is available for a fee through the Harcourt Assessment, Inc., Web site at [harcourtassessment.com/hainweb/cultures/en-us/productdetail.htm?pid=015-8018-370](http://harcourtassessment.com/hainweb/cultures/en-us/productdetail.htm?pid=015-8018-370).
- Center for Epidemiologic Studies Depression Scale (CES-D). The CES-D is available through the Stanford Patient Education Research Center at [patienteducation.stanford.edu/research/cesd.pdf](http://patienteducation.stanford.edu/research/cesd.pdf).
- The nine item depression scale of the Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9). The PHQ-9 is available through the MacArthur Initiative on Depression and Primary Care Web site at [www.depression-primarycare.org/clinicians/toolkits/materials/forms/phq9/](http://www.depression-primarycare.org/clinicians/toolkits/materials/forms/phq9/).

Substance abuse screening tools available to providers include the following:

- The 5-Ps Prenatal Substance Abuse Screen for Alcohol, Drugs, and Tobacco. The 5-Ps scale for pregnant women is available at the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals Office for Addictive Disorders Web site, [www.dhb.louisiana.gov/offices/publications.asp?ID=23](http://www.dhb.louisiana.gov/offices/publications.asp?ID=23).
- Tolerance, Annoyance, Cut down, Eye opener (T-ACE) screen. The T-ACE screen is available through the Project Cork Web site at [www.projectcork.org/clinical\\_tools/html/T-ACE.html](http://www.projectcork.org/clinical_tools/html/T-ACE.html).
- Tolerance, Worry, Eye opener, Amnesia, Cut down (TWEAK) screen. The TWEAK screen is available through the Project Cork Web site at [www.projectcork.org/clinical\\_tools/html/TWEAK.html](http://www.projectcork.org/clinical_tools/html/TWEAK.html).
- The Alcohol, Smoking, and Substance Involvement Screening Test (ASSIST). This screen is available through the World Health Organization at [www.who.int/substance\\_abuse/activities/assist/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/activities/assist/en/index.html).

### ***Preventive Mental Health Counseling and Substance Abuse Intervention***

Brief preventive mental health counseling and substance abuse intervention services are covered for pregnant women

who are identified through the use of an evidence-based screening tool as being at risk for mental health or substance abuse disorders.

Providers are required to use effective strategies for the counseling and intervention services although BadgerCare Plus and Wisconsin Medicaid are not endorsing a specific approach.

Examples of effective strategies for treatment include the following:

- Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT). The SBIRT protocols, designed to treat persons at risk of substance abuse problems, is available through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services at [sbirt.samhsa.gov/about.btm](http://sbirt.samhsa.gov/about.btm).
- My Baby & Me is a program that addresses alcohol cessation in pregnant women using specific intervention and counseling strategies. For more information about the My Baby & Me program, visit the Wisconsin Women's Health Foundation Web site at [www.wmhf.org/mybaby/index.aspx](http://www.wmhf.org/mybaby/index.aspx).

### **Eligible Providers**

Early detection of potential mental health, trauma, or substance abuse problems is crucial to successfully treating pregnant women. It is also important for women to obtain referrals for follow-up care. In order to accomplish these goals, BadgerCare Plus and Wisconsin Medicaid are allowing a wide range of providers to administer these services.

The screening, counseling, and intervention services must be provided by a certified or licensed health care professional **or** provided by an individual under the direction of a licensed health care professional. In addition to meeting the supervision requirement, individuals who are not licensed health care professionals must have appropriate training or a combination of training and work experience in order to administer any of these services.

Refer to Attachment 1 of this *Update* for a list of providers eligible to receive reimbursement for the screening, the preventive mental health counseling, and the substance abuse intervention services.

### **Procedure Codes and Modifiers**

The new benefit will correspond with two Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) procedure codes. H0002 with the modifier "HE" will be used for the mental health screening, and H0002 with the modifier "HF" will be used for the substance abuse screening. H0004 with the modifier "HE" will be used for preventive mental health counseling services, and H0004 with the modifier "HF" will be used for substance abuse intervention services.

Refer to Attachment 2 for tables listing valid place of service codes, procedure codes, and modifiers for the benefit.

### **Coverage Limitations**

#### ***Mental Health and Substance Abuse Screening***

The screening (HCPCS procedure code H0002 with modifier "HE" or "HF") is limited to one unit of service per member per pregnancy. A unit of service is equivalent to the total amount of time required to administer the screening. Providers are encouraged to use more than one screening tool during the screening process when appropriate.

The screening is not considered part of the mental health and substance abuse services available under BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid. The screening is not counted towards any service limitations or prior authorization (PA) thresholds for those services.

#### ***Preventive Mental Health Counseling and Substance Abuse Intervention***

The counseling/intervention services (HCPCS procedure code H0004 with modifier "HE" or "HF") are limited to four hours (or 16 units of service, each unit equivalent to 15

minutes) per member per pregnancy. If a member receives both preventive mental health counseling and substance abuse intervention services, the hours of both services count toward the four-hour limit. Additionally, only one hour (up to four units of service) can be billed on one date of service (DOS). The counseling and intervention services must be provided on the same DOS or on a later DOS than the screening.

These services are covered during the pregnancy and up to 60 days postpartum.

These services are not considered part of the mental health and substance abuse services available under BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid and are not counted towards any service limitations or PA thresholds for those services.

### **Documentation Requirements**

Providers are required to retain documentation that the member receiving these services was pregnant on the DOS. Providers are also required to keep a copy of the completed screening tool(s) in the member's file. If an individual other than a certified or licensed health care professional provides services, the provider is required to retain documents concerning that individual's education, training, and supervision.

Refer to the Wisconsin Medicaid All-Provider Handbook for more information about additional documentation requirements.

### **Prior Authorization**

These services do not require PA.

### **Copayments**

Services provided to pregnant women are not subject to copayment under BadgerCare Plus and Wisconsin Medicaid.

### **Reimbursement**

Providers will be reimbursed the lesser of the provider's usual and customary charge or the BadgerCare Plus and Wisconsin Medicaid maximum allowable fee for the service.

Refer to Attachment 3 for BadgerCare Plus and Wisconsin Medicaid maximum allowable fees for the mental health and substance abuse screening, preventive mental health counseling, and substance abuse intervention services for pregnant women.

### **Information Regarding BadgerCare Plus HMOs**

BadgerCare Plus HMOs are required to provide at least the same benefits as those provided under fee-for-service arrangements. For managed care policy, contact the appropriate managed care organization.

The *BadgerCare Plus Update* is the first source of program policy and billing information for providers. All information applies to Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus unless otherwise noted in the *Update*.

Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus are administered by the Division of Health Care Access and Accountability, Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services, P.O. Box 309, Madison, WI 53701-0309.

For questions, call Provider Services at (800) 947-9627 or (608) 221-9883 or visit our Web site at [dhfs.wisconsin.gov/medicaid/](http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/medicaid/).

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# ATTACHMENT 1

## Providers Eligible for Reimbursement of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Screening, Preventive Mental Health Counseling, and Substance Abuse Intervention Services for Pregnant Women

The following table lists provider types eligible for reimbursement for administering mental health and substance abuse screening, preventive mental health counseling, and substance abuse intervention services for pregnant women enrolled in BadgerCare Plus and Wisconsin Medicaid.

<b>Provider Type</b>	<b>Mental Health or Substance Abuse Screening (H0002 with modifier "HE" or "HF")*</b>	<b>Mental Health Preventive Counseling (H0004 with modifier "HE")*</b>	<b>Substance Abuse Intervention (H0004 with modifier "HF")*</b>
Physicians and physician assistants	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed
Psychiatrists	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed
Psychologists (Ph.D.) in outpatient mental health or substance abuse clinics	Not allowed	Allowed	Allowed
Master's-level psychotherapists in outpatient mental health or substance abuse clinics	Not allowed	Allowed	Allowed
Master's-level psychotherapists with a substance abuse certificate in outpatient mental health or substance abuse clinics	Not allowed	Not allowed	Allowed
AODA counselors in outpatient mental health or substance abuse clinics	Not allowed	Not allowed	Allowed
Advanced practice nurse prescribers with psychiatric specialty	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed
Nurse midwives	Allowed	Not allowed	Allowed
Nurse practitioners	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed
Prenatal care coordination agencies	Allowed	Not allowed	Allowed
Crisis intervention agencies	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed
HealthCheck providers (not including Case Management Only agencies)	Allowed	Not allowed	Allowed

\* This table includes the Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) procedure codes and modifiers that correspond with the screening, counseling, and intervention services.

# ATTACHMENT 2

## Procedure Codes for Mental Health and Substance Abuse Screening, Preventive Mental Health Counseling, and Substance Abuse Intervention Services for Pregnant Women

The following tables list the Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) procedure codes and applicable modifiers that providers are required to use when submitting claims for mental health and substance abuse screening, preventive mental health counseling, and substance abuse intervention services for pregnant women enrolled in BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid. Not all providers may be reimbursed for a particular service.

<b>Place of Service Codes (Submitted on the 1500 Health Care Claim Form)</b>	
03	School
11	Office
12	Home
21*	Inpatient Hospital
22	Outpatient Hospital
23	Emergency Room — Hospital
99	Other Place of Service

<b>Mental Health and Substance Abuse Screening and Preventive Counseling/Intervention Services for Pregnant Women</b>					
Procedure Code	Description	Modifier	Limitations	Allowable ICD-9-CM** Diagnosis	Allowable Place of Service
H0002  Mental Health and Substance Abuse Screening	Behavioral health screening to determine eligibility for admission to treatment program (Unit equals one, regardless of time)	Required HE (Mental health program) or HF (Substance abuse program)	Limited to one unit per member per pregnancy.	V28.9  (Unspecified antenatal screening)	03, 11, 12, 21*, 22, 23, 99

<b>Procedure Code</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Modifier</b>	<b>Limitations</b>	<b>Allowable ICD-9-CM** Diagnosis</b>	<b>Allowable Place of Service</b>
H0004  Preventive Mental Health Counseling and Substance Abuse Intervention	Behavioral health counseling and therapy, per 15 minutes (Unit equals 15 minutes)	Required HE (Mental health program) HF (Substance abuse program)	Limited to 16 units per member per pregnancy.  Only four units of service are allowed per date of service (DOS).  A screening (H0002 with modifier "HE" or "HF") must be administered on or before the DOS for this procedure.	V65.4  (Other counseling, not otherwise specified)	03, 11, 12, 21*, 22, 23, 99

\* Place of service code "21" is not allowed for substance abuse counselors and Master's-level mental health providers.

\*\* *International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification.*

# ATTACHMENT 3

## Maximum Allowable Fees for Mental Health and Substance Abuse Screening, Preventive Mental Health Counseling, and Substance Abuse Intervention Services for Pregnant Women

The following table includes maximum allowable fees for the mental health and substance abuse screening, preventive mental health counseling, and substance abuse intervention services for pregnant women enrolled in BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid.

Procedure Code and Description	Providers	Maximum Allowable Fee
<b>H0002</b> (with modifier "HE" or "HF") Behavioral health screening to determine eligibility for admission to treatment program (Mental health and substance abuse screening)	All eligible provider types (See Attachment 1 of this <i>Update</i> .)	\$35.00 (flat rate)
<b>H0004</b> (with modifier "HE") Behavioral health counseling and therapy, per 15 minutes (Preventive mental health counseling)	Physicians	\$20.03 per 15 minutes
	Physician assistants	\$18.03 per 15 minutes
	Psychiatrists	\$20.03 per 15 minutes
	Psychologists (Ph.D.)	\$16.25 per 15 minutes
	Master's-level psychotherapists	\$13.75 per 15 minutes
	Advanced practice nurse prescribers with psychiatric specialty	\$20.03 per 15 minutes
	Nurse practitioners	\$14.55 per 15 minutes
	Crisis intervention agencies	\$14.55 per 15 minutes
<b>H0004</b> (with modifier "HF") Behavioral health counseling and therapy, per 15 minutes (Substance abuse intervention)	Physicians	\$20.03 per 15 minutes
	Physician assistants	\$18.03 per 15 minutes
	Psychiatrists	\$20.03 per 15 minutes
	Psychologists (Ph.D.)	\$16.25 per 15 minutes
	Master's-level psychotherapists	\$13.75 per 15 minutes
	Master's-level psychotherapists with a substance abuse certificate	\$13.75 per 15 minutes
	AODA counselors	\$7.99 per 15 minutes

Procedure Code and Description	Providers	Maximum Allowable Fee
<b>H0004</b> (with modifier "HF") (Continued) Behavioral health counseling and therapy, per 15 minutes (Substance abuse intervention)	Advanced practice nurse prescribers with psychiatric specialty	\$20.03 per 15 minutes
	Nurse midwives	\$14.55 per 15 minutes
	Nurse practitioners	\$14.55 per 15 minutes
	Prenatal care coordination agencies	\$12.08 per 15 minutes
	Crisis intervention agencies	\$14.55 per 15 minutes
	HealthCheck providers (not including case management only agencies)	\$12.08 per 15 minutes